

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-01
INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PRS-01 EURE-00 SSO-00 /038 W
-----036982 131540Z /53
O 131437Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4070
INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CNO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 OSLO 3242

LIMDIS

SECDEF FOR OASD/ISA - COL NORMAN WALKER AND OASD/PA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NO, ETEL, SV
SUBJECT: GON'S NEXT MOVE ON LORAN-C/CLARINET PILGRIM

REF: OSLO 3227

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: DEFENSE UNDERSECRETARY HOLST CALLED CHARGE
IN WAKE OF LESS-THAN-HELPFUL "DAGBLADET" JULY 12 ARTICLE ON
LORAN-C (REFTL) TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS GON AND EMBASSY
MIGHT TAKE TO CONTAIN BURGEONING CLARINET PILGRIM STORY AND TO
PLACE ENTIRE LORAN-C/CLARINET PILGRIM SUBJECT INTO PROPER
PERSPECTIVE. EMBASSY PRESENTS OUR VIEWS BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. HOLST EMPHASIZED TO CHARGE IMPORTANCE HIGHEST LEVELS OF
NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT ATTACHED TO ANTICIPATING AND CONFRONTING
POSSIBLE DAMAGING EFFECTS OF INNUENDOS CONTAINED IN MORE
IRRESPONSIBLE LORAN-C/CLARINET PILGRIM STORIES. HE WAS CON-
CERNED THAT GON WAS BEING INCREASINGLY DRIVEN BY THE ISSUE
AS PRESENTED IN THE FAR LEFTIST PRESS. THE GON NEEDED TO
GET BACK ON TOP OF THE ISSUE AND HE FELT THAT THE BEST NEXT STEP
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WOULD BE FOR EITHER GON OR USG TO MAKE PUBLIC WHATEVER INFORMATION
WE COULD ABOUT CLARINET PILGRIM. THIS WOULD HELP DEFUSE
LEFTIST IMPLICATIONS THAT GON AND USG WERE COVERING UP
INFORMATION ABOUT CLARINET PILGRIM AND LORAN-C. HOLST NOTED
THAT PRIME MINISTER WAS LOSING PATIENCE WITH ENTIRE SERIES
OF STORIES AND HOLST WAS ENCOURAGING HIM TO MAKE A PUBLIC
STATEMENT ON THE BROADER SUBJECT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF NORWAY'S

MEMBERSHIP IN NATO, POSSIBLY NEXT WEEK.

3. HOLST SAID HE HAD BEEN SENT AN UNDATED APPARENTLY UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION SHEET ON LORAN-C/CLARINET PILGRIM BY THE EMBASSY ABOUT 18 MONTHS AGO. HE ASKED IF THE USG WOULD AGREE TO THE RELEASE OF THE INFORMATION SHEET, TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS: (NOTE: WE ARE UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE SOURCE OF THE INFORMATION SHEET HERE, BUT BELIEVE IT MAY HAVE COME TO US FROM THE US COAST GURAD REPRESENTATIVE IN LONDON. IT HAS NO CLASSIFICATION INDICATORS ON IT, AND HOLST NOTED THAT WHEN HE RECEIVED IT HE WAS TOLD IT WAS UNCLASSIFIED).

BEGIN TEXT:

SUPERIMPOSING DATA COMMUNICATIONS ON THE LORAN-C EMISSIONS

TRANSMITTING STATIONS OF THE LORAN-C RADIONAVIGATION SYSTEM ARE NOW OPERATING IN ICELAND (SANDUR), NORWAY (BO AND JAN MAYEN), DENMARK (EJDE, FAROES IS.), AND GERMANY (SYLT). THE STATIONS ALL OPERATE ON THE FREQUENCY 100 KHZ, WITH A COMPLEX 20P9 EMISSION, PURSUANT TO NO. 166 OF THE ITU RADIO REGULATIONS. ASTERISK

CURRENTLY, THE COMPLEX MODULATION APPLIED TO THE EMISSIONS FROM THE STATIONS IS ONLY FOR PURPOSES OF IDENTIFICATION AND REDUCTION OF SKY-WAVE INTERFERENCE PROBLEMS. THE STATIONS ARE NOW USED ONLY FOR NAVIGATIONAL AND TIME DISTRIBUTION OR CONFIDENTIAL

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SYNCHRONIZATION PURPOSES.

A SYSTEM, NOW GENERALLY REFERRED TO AS CLARINET PILGRIM, HAS BEEN DEVELOPED WHICH SUPERIMPOSES U.S. NAVY FLEET BROADCASTS ON THE LORAN-C PULSE TRANSMISSIONS. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE RELIABLE NAVY COMMUNICATIONS IN AREAS COVERED BY LORAN-C. THE SYSTEM IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE THIS CAPABILITY WITH MINIMAL EFFECT ON THE NAVIGATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LORAN-C SYSTEM. CLARINET PILGRIM HAS BEEN INSTALLED IN THE NORTHWEST PACIFIC LORAN-C CHAIN, WHERE IT HAS BEEN IN SERVICE ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS FOR OVER FOUR (4) YEARS. THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF INTERFERENCE TO USE OF THE SYSTEM FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES. LIKEWISE, THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF ADDITIONAL INTERFERENCE TO OTHER SERVICES RESULTING FROM THE ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATIONS MODULATION.

CLARINET PILGRIM IS NOW URGENTLY REQUIRED IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC AREA BECAUSE EXISTING NAVY FLEET BROADCAST TRANSMITTERS DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH POWER OR CAPACITY TO COVER ALL OCEAN AREAS THAT SHIPS NORMALLY TRANSIT. BY USING CERTAIN OF THE EXISTING LORAN-C TRANSMITTING STATIONS FOR FLEET RELAY TRANSMISSIONS, THERE WILL BE NO REQUIREMENT TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL LOW FREQUENCY ASSIGNMENTS AND TO CONSTRUCT ADDITIONAL HIGH POWER TRANSMITTING FACILITIES.

DUAL USE OF THE LORAN-C EMISSIONS (I.E., NAVIGATION AND

COMMUNICATIONS) IS AN ECONOMICAL USE OF THE RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM. IT IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ALLOCATION PROVISIONS FOR THE FREQUENCY BAND 90-110 KHZ. THE MODULATION WILL BE SO APPLIED AS TO NOT SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGE THE RADIATED BANDWIDTH OF THE SIGNAL. THE OBLIGATION TO NOT CAUSE HARMFUL INTERFERENCE TO OTHER SERVICES IN THE SAME, OR ADJACENT, FREQUENCY BANDS WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED.

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 EURE-00 SSO-00
PM-03 L-01 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PRS-01 /038 W
-----037122 131542Z /53

O 131437Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4071
INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CNO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 OSLO 3242

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INITIALLY, THE COMMUNICATIONS WOULD BE FOR FLEET BROADCAST PURPOSES; LATER, IF FOUND TO BE DESIRABLE AND TECHNICALLY AND OPERATIONALLY FREASIBLE, ADDITIONAL CHANNELS MIGHT BE ADDED FOR INTER-STATION COMMUNICATIONS AND/OR FOR OTHER OFFICIALS COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS.

CLARINET PILGRIM DOES NOT REQUIRE INCREASED POWER, NEW BUILDINGS, OR NEW ANTENNAS. THE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT REQUIRED IS RELATIVELY SMALL AND READILY FITS WITHIN EXISTING LORAN STATIONS.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF THESE STATIONS PURSUANT TO NO. 166 OF THE RADIO REGULATIONS HAVE INVOLVED ICELAND, NORWAY, DENMARK, GERMANY, UNITED KINGDOM, SWEDEN, FINLAND, BELGIUM, NETHERLAND, FRANCE, SWITZERLAND, ITALY, SPAIN, PORTUGAL AND AUSTRIA. END TEXT.

4. HOLST STATED THAT IF THE USG COULD NOT PERMIT PUBLICATION OF THIS PARTICULAR INFORMATION, PERHAPS WE COULD MAKE PUBLIC

OTHER FACTS ABOUT CLARINET PILGRIM. HE ASSURED CHARGE THAT
GON WOULD FULLY ABIDE BY WHATEVER USG DECIDED.
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5. ON THE TACTICS OF PUBLICIZING CLARINET PILGRIM INFORMATION,
HOLST DID NOT HAVE A PREFERENCE AS TO WHETHER USG OR GON SHOULD MAKE
INFO PUBLIC. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO COORDINATE
THE RELEASE BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS AND TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT
TO THE PUBLIC THAT SUCH COORDINATION HAD TAKEN PLACE.

6. ON A SECOND BUT RELATED SUBJECT, HOLST SAID THAT IT WOULD
BE HELPFUL FOR THE GON TO HEAR SOON FROM THE USG WHEN OUR GOVERNMENT
EXPECTS TO HAVE AN ANSWER FROM THE GON ON OUR REQUEST TO INSTALL
CLARINET PILGRIM. HOLST NOTED THAT WITH ELECTIONS COMING UP,
PEOPLE IN THE GOVERNMENT WERE RELUCTANT TO PUT ISSUES LIKE
CLARINET PILGRIM ON AN ALREADY-FULL AGENDA. THE CHARGE NOTED
THAT HE WAS CERTAIN CONCERNED US AGENCIES WERE SENSITIVE TO THE
TIMING PROBLEMS FACING THE GON AND AGREED TO SEEK A MORE CONCRETE
ANSWER WHICH HOLST COULD USE WITHIN THE GON.

7. AS A FINAL ISSUE, HOLST SAID THAT OUR GOVERNMENT SHOULD
BEGIN THINKING ABOUT HOW THE USG WOULD REACT IF THE GON
ASKED US POINT BLANK WHETHER CLARINET PILGRIM WOULD HAVE AS ITS
PRIMARY FUNCTION COMMUNICATIONS WITH SSBNS. HOLST
SAID HE WAS NOT RAISING THIS QUESTION OFFICALLY NOW, BUT ADDED
THAT HE EXPECTED THE GON WOULD WHEN THE TIME ARRIVED FOR A GON DECISI
ON
ON CLARINET PILGRIM. HE DID NOT EXPECT THAT THE USG
ANSWER WOULD INFLUENCE THE GON'S DECISION BUT REITERATED
THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ASKED SOONER OR LATER ABOUT THIS ISSUE
AND WOULD HAVE TO BE IN A POSITION TO RESPOND. CHARGE NOTED
WE WOULD THINK ABOUT HIS QUESTION.

8. COMMENT: THE LEFTIST PRESS DOES NOT HAVE AS ITS GOAL
LORAN-C OR EVEN CLARINET PILGTIM IT IS AIMING TO IMPLY THAT
THESE SYSTEMS SOMEHOW VIOLATE NORWAY'S BASE POLICY OR NUCLEAR
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POLICY OR BOTH, AND THEREBY CALL INTO QUESTION THE WHOLE OF NORWAY'S
SECURITY POLICY AND NATO MEMBERSHIP. WE AGREE WITH HOLST
THAT THE GON HAS ALLOWED ITSELF TO BE PUT ON THE DEFENSIVE
TO DATE AND HAS BEEN DRIVEN BY THE LEFTIST TO DEBATE THE FINE
POINTS OF LORAN-C/CLARINET PILGRIM WITHOUT ADDRESSING THE LARGER ISSU
E OF
NORWAY'S SECURITY POLICY. WE AGREE WITH HOLST THAT THE BEST

WAY TO STAUNCH THE TIDE IS WITH A HIGH-LEVEL GON STATEMENT
ALONG LINES HE INDICATED. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE
HIM AND OTHER GON OFFICIALS IN THAT DIRECTION AS APPROPRIATE.

9. MEANWHILE, THE USG SHOULD PLAY A SUPPORTIVE ROLE IN THE
GON PLANS TO TAME DOWN THE LORAN-C/CLARINET PILGRIM
STORY. WE BELIEVE THAT PUBLICATION OF A SHORT FACT SHEET
TO BE A USEFUL PROPOSAL, THOUGH WE BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE PUT
OUT BY THE GON, PROBABLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HIGH-LEVEL
STATEMENT MENTIONED ABOVE.

10. FINALLY, THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT RESURFACING LORAN-C/
CLARINET PILGRIM IN PARLIAMENT TWO MONTHS BEFORE ELECTIONS MAKES
IT EXTREMELY UNLIKELY THAT WE COULD FORCE AN EARLY POSITIVE
DECISION FROM THE GON ON THE SUBJECT EVEN IF WE WANTED TO.
WE HAVE WAITED THIS LONG FOR AN ANSWER AND WOULD LOSE LITTLE OR NOTHING
BY WAITING UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTIONS.
THEREFORE, WE WOULD LIKE TO TELL HOLST WE DO NOT CONSIDER A 1977
DECISION NECESSARY.

11. ACTION REQUESTED: A. INDICATION ON WHETHER TEXT OF
FACT SHEET IN PARA 3 CAN BE MADE PUBLIC. IF SO, DOES USG
OBJECT TO GON MAKING IT PUBLIC? IF NOT, WHAT INFORMATION CAN
WE OR GON MAKE PUBLIC ON CLARINET PILGRIM? PLEASE ADVISE
ASAP. B. AUTHORITY TO TELL GON THAT USG FEELS NO
SPECIAL URGENCY ON ESTABLISHMENT OF CLARINET PILGRIM AND
THAT A GON DECISION IN FY 78 IS PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, LORAN, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OSLO03242
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770249-0340
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770762/aaaacub.tel
Line Count: 259
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7cf2576c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 77 OSLO 3227
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1877773
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GONV'S NEXT MOVE ON LORAN-C/CLARINET PILGRIM
TAGS: PFOR, ETEL, NO, SV
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7cf2576c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009